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MONTANA LABOR MARKET

Monthly Review of
EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK, LABOR SUPPLY, LABOR DEMAND, CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

MONTANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE
Division of Unemployment Compensation Commission of Montana

Albert F. Root, Commissioner — Wesley Castles, Chairman — Paul R. McClure, Commissioner
Mitchell Building — P. O. Box 1728 — Helena, Montana

FL-123 — MAY 15, 1953

Minor Employment Gains Registered During April

Employment in industrial and commercial plants in Montana as of April 15 is estimated at 151,900, a gain of 2,200 from the same period a year ago, and a rise of 2,700 from March 15 of this year, according to figures compiled jointly by the commission and the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor.

Annual Margin Is Slightly Lower

This was the fifteenth successive month showing a total employment growth over the same month in the preceding year; significantly, however, this is the lowest margin of the April figure over the preceding April for four of the past five years. One factor in this slowing up of the employment trend is reduced hiring in contract construction for dams and other heavy construction, which is 2,100 below its level of a year ago. Margin of employment over the preceding April was 6,500 in 1948, 6,800 in 1949, deficit of 1,900 in the bad year of 1950, gain of 3,800 in 1951, and another 3,800 gain in 1952. The 1953 figure levels off with a 2,200 increase.

All But Two Industries Increase

Industries showing employment gains over April, 1952, include wholesale and retail trade, 1,200; service industries, 700; mining and petroleum production, 500; manufacturing, 400; finance, insurance and real estate, 300; and all governmental employment, 200. This aggregate of 3,300 was tempered by net reductions in contract construction, 1,000; and in transportation and utilities, 100.

All Retail Lines Show Increase

Growth of employment in trade was all registered in retail lines, the wholesale payrolls remaining on the same level as a year ago. General merchandising, automotive and filling stations, furniture, drug, and specialty shops all showed substantial growth in the year. Service industries recorded their greatest employment increase in amusement, recreation, hand trades, and auto repair service.

Metal Mine Employment Advances

More employment by 400 was recorded in metal mining than a year ago, reflecting the steady advance toward an expansion goal of 1,000 in that industry. Coal mining, on the other hand, is 100 below its level of last April, another evidence of the attrition characterizing that industry as substitute fuels displace coal in industry and domestic use. Oil and gas production shows 200 more employed this April than last, much of which gain is due to the expanding activities in oil in eastern Montana.

Progress Shown in Manufacturing

Manufacturing industries also reflect a gain of 400 in employment from April, 1952. Stone and clay products, furniture,

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MORE JOBSEEKERS IN STATE LABOR MARKET RESULT OF COMPLETING LARGER PROJECTS

Resumption of full employment in seasonal industries in Montana has proceeded at a slower pace this spring than a year ago, resulting in a larger reserve of unemployed jobseekers on April 30. The figure this year is 6,043, last year it was 5,705, represented by active work applicants at offices of the employment service in the state. The same comparison refiflects in unemployment insurance claims, of which there were 3,228 the first week in May this year and 1,893 the same period a year ago.

Less Hiring in April Due to High Winter Level

The labor reserve diminished 3,300 in April, as compared with a 3,700 reduction a year ago, 3,800 in 1951, 4,600 in 1950 and 4,200 in 1949. April is ordinarily one of the busiest hiring months in the year, with seasonal operations in construction, lumbering, railroad maintenance and farming making inroads into the winter accumulation of jobseekers. Favorable weather which prevailed during last winter enabled some seasonal industries to keep their employment at a higher than normal winter level and correspondingly reduced the additions to force at opening of spring.

Demand Down Twenty Percent

Hiring through employment service channels was at a lower level in April this year than last, 4,700 compared with 5,967, partially due to the decreased seasonal demand during that period. Gains in job placement over the previous April were recorded in Bozeman, Cut Bank, Forsyth, Hamilton, Livingston, Malta, Miles City and Missoula, while labor demand was substantially reduced in Billings, Butte, Glasgow, Glendive, Helena, Kalispell, Libby, Polson, Sidney, and Thompson Falls.

Fewer Big Projects in Process

Mass employment on big construction projects is missing from the labor markets in the state this spring. Hungry Horse is completed as to construction, and employs around 300 this year as compared with 2,000 a year ago. Canyon Ferry is on its last season and is using around 300, with prospect of adding another 100 next month but still below its 550 level of last summer. Tiber Dam is new and is not comparable to Hungry Horse for total employment. About 300 are at work on the Tiber job now, with no official word as to probable limits during the season.

Aluminum Plant in Contract Stage

Start of the construction work on a new aluminum plant near Columbia Falls is still in the contract process. Around 500 or more are expected to be needed in that work at some time this summer but no date for commencement of work has been set. The aluminum plant is expected to require about 450 in its operation crew when completed, which is hoped for in 1954. Sufficient labor reserve in the immediate area is indicated by a management-employment service survey just now reaching completion.

State Highways Employ 1,270

Employment on state highway construction and maintenance increased seasonally during April but was about 25 percent below a year ago. Contractors on bridges, highway projects and railroad passes had 583 men on their rolls the last of April, and 687 were on the maintenance crews of the state highway commission. A year ago the employment was 873 and 830 in those categories. A month ago the similar employment numbered 300 and 700.

Improving 160 Miles of Road

Work was in progress April 30 on 160 miles of highway, in 22 projects; on nine bridges at a contract price of $1,428,900; on one gravel piling contract at $78,500; and on an underpass at $395,500. The backlog of highway construction, including projects suspended for the winter and not yet resumed, and those contracted but not yet started, consists of 14 road jobs on 110 miles of construction, five bridges to cost about $300,000, and a stock-piling gravel job at $44,800. One road contract and three bridges were completed in April.

No Labor Shortages to Date

No acute labor shortages had developed in the state up to the first of May. Hiring of local hardrock miners was open at Butte, with few qualified applicants. Housing conditions preclude importation of miners there, at least until late in the summer season.

Nine Areas May Need More Workers

Construction workers are likely to be needed at Bozeman, Glendive, Havre, Shelby and Sidney by June. Other areas in which labor supply is thought to be inadequate for the full season are Cut Bank, Fort Benton, Hamilton, and Miles City.

Surplus in Larger Cities

Areas of apparent surplus include Butte, Billings, Great Falls, Kalispell, Livingston, Missoula and Polson. Most of the other offices report a probably adequate supply with no surplus of moment.

Schools Will Add to Supply

Closing of school and college terms late in May and in June will release a substantial supply, much of it at least partially skilled, and will tend to dissolve the shortage threats in most areas of the state.

Along the Hiring Line --- Field Summary May 1

ANACONDA, Deer Lodge, Philipsburg—(96 jobseekers: 49 men, 47 women; 16 men and 8 women over 45) Addition to hospital is about ready for bricklaying. A new project of building homes is ready to start excavation. Present labor supply sufficient.

BILLINGS, Columbus, Hardin, Roundup, Laurel, Red Lodge—(675 jobseekers: 547 men, 128 women; 220 men and 54 women over 45) Seasonal increase evident through April in hiring for construction, agriculture and trade, with trade showing the largest gain while farming lagged behind last year in labor demand. Coal layoffs nearly complete, younger miners finding summer jobs in construction and on the farm, older men not easily assimilated. Chrome mine on the Stillwater is expected to absorb some of this surplus as they launch mining operations this summer.

BOZEMAN, Ennis, Three Forks, Trident—(106 jobseekers; 75 men, 31 women; 59 over 45) Construction and road projects active, about fully staffed. Farm hiring heavy in April. New road contract to start in May. College building contracted, will begin hiring about May 15. All available skilled construction labor will be in jobs by June.

BUTTE, Virginia City, Whitehall—(552 jobseekers; 393 men, 159 women) Labor demand is disappointing this season. Construction activities are low, a few residence projects and building repair jobs in progress. Skilled workers and others in the construction line are looking elsewhere for summer and fall jobs. More transients than usual are noted in the office and in the city.

CUT BANK—(122 jobseekers; 109 men, 13 women; 42 over 45) Labor demand felt in trade and service industries, in oil field work, and in construction, but much of the outdoor work has been retarded by recurrent storms. Railroad will add two track crews during May.

DILLON — (91 jobseekers; 79 men, 12 women) Construction is starting to call workers back into employment from an ample local supply. Laying of heavier steel on 40 miles of railway will begin May 15. Forest crews being organized for the season work on trails and timber culture. A road project, oiling, will start as soon as weather permits. Irrigators and lambers in demand.

FORSYTH, Colstrip, Hysham — (29 jobseekers; 25 men, 4 women; 4 over 45) Seasonal hiring has depleted labor supply, though construction program is lighter than normal. One road project to start soon. Employment of Indians with forest and railroad being urged.

FORT BENTON — (10 jobseekers; 6 men, 4 women) Agricultural hiring has reduced the labor supply almost to vanishing point, transients and labor clearance depended on for rest of season. Two road jobs, a school building, oil exploration, and railroad track crews have been labor market factors.

GLASGOW, Fort Peck, Opheim — (95 jobseekers; 64 men, 31 women; 19 men and 2 women over 45) Construction hiring is active, with three business blocks, a school, two road projects and repair of an underpass drawing on the local supply. Less unemployment than a year ago.

GLENDIVE, Circle, Wibaux—(59 jobseekers; 45 men, 14 women; 19 men and 2 women over 45) Spring farm work is at peak, with no shortage of agricultural labor as yet. Construction work is slow in starting, a 20 unit housing project is due to begin in May. Oil drilling is active throughout area, many of the employees coming in with the outfits.

GREAT FALLS, Choteau, Stanford — (547 jobseekers; 409 men, 138 women; 188 men and 32 women over 45) More unemployment in April than year ago. Labor market is slow and uncertain, though available supply reduced 40 percent in April. About 70 carpenters and other building labor still awaiting assignment. No new construction contracts in sight, airbase is using less than 100 men on curtailed budget. Railroad track crews were brought in from other points.

HAMILTON, Stevensville—(94 jobseekers; 77 men, 17 women; 33 men and 11 women over 45) Labor supply less than one-third of its volume a year ago. City sewer project, a road job and a bridge to start soon. Woods work has resumed earlier than normal, due to open weather.

HAVRE, Chinook, Harlem — (117 jobseekers; 78 men, 39 women; 14 men and 3 women over 45) Increasing flow of transients seeking jobs on Tiber project. Hiring for local construction and for railroad track work and shops was active in April. Favorable weather permitted earlier than normal hiring by farmers. Three school buildings to start in May, shortage of carpenters and building labor anticipated.

HELENA, Canyon Ferry, White Sulphur Springs, Townsend, Boulder, Garrison — (347 jobseekers; 275 men, 72 women) Hiring rate has been slower than a year ago and the claim load has decreased at a correspondingly slower pace. Some layoffs from trade and service establishments, due to slack business demand. Farm and ranch hiring has been brisk, stronger than normal. About 300 employed on Canyon Ferry dam now, may reach 400 this summer. No present openings in the area for carpenters, truck drivers, or construction labor. Work in the timber has not made its usual spring resumption.

KALISPELL, Whitefish, Columbia Falls, Hungry Horse — (1,189 jobseekers; 1,003 men, 186 women) Unemployment is about 400 above its level of a year ago. Hungry Horse is not a hiring factor this year and other construction projects have not developed to absorb the surplus. Start of the construction of the new aluminum plant is again delayed, no date for beginning is announced. Price of lumber serves to curtail the resumption of woods and lumber operations.

LEWISTOWN, Harlowton, Ryegate, Winnett—(79 jobseekers; 50 men, 29 women; 22 men and 5 women over 45) Farm and construction hiring slowed by adverse weather early part of April, speeded during closing weeks. Construction program includes five homes, two road jobs, remodelling of commercial buildings, a farm implement building and a service station.

LIBBY, Eureka — (149 jobseekers; 122 men, 27 women; 53 men and 9 women over

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Minor Employment Gains Registered During April

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and fabricated metal products provide 300 of this increment, while lumber and timber were gaining 100 and primary metal processing lost a negligible 100. Processing of food and kindred products is on the credit side with a growth of 100, no change is recorded for printing and publishing or for manufacture of petroleum products, apparel and chemicals.

Finance Up, Government Lags

The finance industry group shows a 300 increase in the one-year period, in keeping with the steady and almost uninterrupted growth of that segment of the state's employment economy. The various branches of government, from federal agencies to school districts, reflected an employment gain of 200, which represents a slowing up in that category in sympathy with reduced governmental employment in building of dams and other public projects.

Heavy Construction Shows Loss

The debit side of the employment estimates for April is dominated by the 1,000 net decrease in contract construction. The item of heavy construction shows a loss of 2,100 from a year ago, partly offset by 500 gain in employment by builders of commercial buildings and residences, and of 600 in special trade contract employment, largely on those same commercial buildings and residences.

Seasonal Increases Below Normal

The seasonal increase of 2,700 in employment, measured by the change from March figures to those of April, reflect the high level of employment maintained in most seasonal industries during the winter months, made possible by unusually moderate weather conditions, which left less of a spread for April hiring. Change from March to April, measured on this basis, was less this year than for any of the five preceding years. In 1948 the seasonal gain was 3,900; 6,300 in 1949; 6,900 in 1950; 5,600 in 1951, and 6,700 in 1952.

SEVEN YEARS OF MONTANA INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT TOTALS, BY MONTHS (in Thousands)

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Aver.
1947	127.8	127.6	128.6	130.6	134.8	138.0	142.0	142.0	141.0	141.6	141.2	141.7	136.4
1948	134.4	132.0	133.2	137.1	140.6	145.8	148.9	150.3	151.4	149.6	149.4	147.7	143.4
1949	137.1	135.5	137.7	144.0	147.3	151.0	150.0	150.1	149.8	148.2	146.1	143.3	145.0
1950	133.2	132.2	135.2	142.1	147.3	153.6	154.9	157.1	156.8	152.2	150.7	148.8	147.0
1951	141.9	139.4	140.3	145.9	149.4	154.1	153.5	154.6	154.3	152.4	151.7	150.6	149.0
1952	140.5	140.8	143.0	149.7	155.0	159.9	161.1	162.7	163.3	159.6	156.6	157.1	154.1
1953	150.0	148.1	149.2	151.9									

Along the Hiring Line ---

(Continued from Page 2)

45) Climate and the lumber market both unfavorable to expansion of working forces, though some increase was noted through April. Forest service is hiring brush pilers and tree planters, will be more active in June.

LIVINGSTON, Big Timber — (185 jobseekers; 125 men, 60 women; 55 men and 20 women over 45) Transients filled the farm labor demand during April, at wages somewhat below those prevailing a year ago. Bridge construction about to cease, due to shortage of steel. Hospital is using 15 men. Labor demand is 50 percent below the 1952 level, with no increase expected in May. Railroad has hired replacements for its shops and roundhouse as some of its crews migrate to farms in the summer. Extra gang hiring was more brisk in April than a year ago.

MALTA — (32 jobseekers; 17 men, 15 women; 9 men and 3 women over 45) Labor supply has diminished steadily, indicating probable shortages in May and June. Construction program includes a bridge, government project, and spring repairs to business and residence buildings. Oil exploration continues active in the area. No large construction projects in sight.

MILES CITY, Baker, Ekalaka, Broadus, Terry—(70 jobseekers; 42 men, 28 women; 20 men and 10 women over 45) Farm hiring in April exceeded that of a year ago, but non-farm was less active. Construction contractors have absorbed most of the building skills but no demands for recruitment have developed.

MISSOULA, Drummond, Arlee, Superior —(804 jobseekers; 577 men, 227 women; 246 men and 79 women over 45) April labor demand much stronger than in preceding month but followed seasonal pattern of previous years. Railroad track and maintenance needs were filled early, no current demand. Labor dispute disrupted building work briefly in April, settlement put all back to work. Road job is fully staffed. New timbering project at Superior still in preparatory stages, no lumber work this season. Heavy snow hampering work on road into timber stands. Unemployment in the entire Missoula area is diminishing rapidly.

POLSON—(201 jobseekers; 158 men, 43 women; 91 over 45) Job openings are less abundant than a year ago, no large projects starting. New power unit at the Kerr dam fully staffed. Logging and lumbering operating on nearly full scale but still hampered by soft roads.

SHELBY, Chester, Conrad, Tiber Dam— (35 jobseekers; 20 men, 15 women) Constant flow of transients, seeking Tiber dam or farm work, constitute a migratory supply above the recorded jobseekers. Tiber demand is low, most workers there and on other construction projects are call-backs from last fall's crews. Some additional demand in sight from expansion of crews constructing roads, bridge, school additions, and new commercial structure. The railroads will require recruits for extra gangs in May.

SIDNEY — (82 jobseekers; 70 men, 12 women; 15 men and 4 women over 45) Labor market drained by farm and seasonal industry demand. Threatened shortage of carpenters, plasterers, construction labor, sales and clerical help. Oil developments point to increasing employment demand from that field.

THOMPSON FALLS, Hot Springs—(186 jobseekers; 162 men, 24 women; 20 men and 10 women over 45) Employment in logging and lumbering increased late in April, with further demand expected in May and June. One mill opened with 22 men, will add 20 more; another put on crew of 30, will need 15 additional; two mills operating on stock-piled logs.

WOLF POINT, Plentywood, Scobey — (91 jobseekers; 73 men, 18 women; 21 over 45) Construction employment levelled off, no change expected until June, when two new schools will be built. Carpenters now all at work, with some building labor still available. Employment in oil exploration less than expected, much of it furnished from in-migration.

ESTIMATED EMPLOYMENT IN NON-AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES IN MONTANA (1)

(Produced in co-operation with United States Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT			Net Change	
	April 1953 (2)	March 1953 (3)	April 1952	Mar. 53 to Apr. 53	Apr. 52 to Apr. 53
NONAGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES	**151,900**	**149,200**	**149,700**	**2,700**	**2,200**
Manufacturing	**16,900**	**16,700**	**16,500**	**200**	**400**
Durable goods	9,700	9,800	9,400	—100	300
Lumber and timber products	5,000	4,900	4,900	100	100
Primary metals	3,400	3,600	3,500	—200	—100
Other (4)	1,300	1,300	1,000	0	300
Nondurable goods	7,200	6,900	7,100	300	100
Food and kindred products	3,800	3,700	3,700	100	100
Printing and publishing	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
Other (5)	1,900	1,700	1,900	200	0
Mining	**11,800**	**12,000**	**11,300**	**—200**	**500**
Metal mining	8,800	8,900	8,400	—100	400
Bituminous and soft coal mining	500	500	600	0	—100
Petroleum-natural gas production	2,000	2,100	1,800	—100	200
Quarrying and nonmetallic mining	500	500	500	0	0
Contract construction	**9,300**	**7,900**	**10,300**	**1,400**	**—1,000**
Contractors, building construction	3,600	3,000	3,100	600	500
Contractors, other than building	2,700	2,200	4,800	500	—2,100
Contractors, special trade	3,000	2,700	2,400	300	600
Transportation and utilities	**22,700**	**22,200**	**22,800**	**500**	**—100**
Interstate railroads	13,700	13,300	14,200	400	—500
Transportation except railroads	3,600	3,500	3,400	100	200
Utilities including communication	5,400	5,400	5,200	0	200
Trade	**39,100**	**38,600**	**37,900**	**500**	**1,200**
Wholesale Trade	8,100	8,200	8,100	—100	0
Retail trade	31,000	30,400	29,800	600	1,200
General merchandise and apparel	6,400	6,300	6,100	100	300
Food stores	4,400	4,300	4,400	100	0
Eating and drinking establishments	7,100	7,000	7,100	100	0
Automotive and filling stations	5,700	5,600	5,400	100	300
Retail trade not elsewhere classified	7,400	7,200	6,800	200	600
Finance, insurance and real estate	**4,700**	**4,800**	**4,400**	**—100**	**300**
Services and miscellaneous	**18,900**	**18,500**	**18,200**	**400**	**700**
Hotels, rooming houses, camps, etc.	2,900	2,700	2,800	200	100
Personal services	2,400	2,300	2,300	100	100
Other (6)	13,600	13,500	13,100	100	500
Government	**28,500**	**28,500**	**28,300**	**0**	**200**
Great Falls Area (Cascade County)	**14,100**	**14,000**	**14,200**	**100**	**—100**
Selected Industries					
Manufacturing	2,700	2,700	2,800	0	—100
Transportation and utilities	2,600	2,500	2,700	100	—100
Trade	5,500	5,500	5,500	0	0
Services and miscellaneous (7)	3,300	3,300	3,200	0	100

(1) Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period ending nearest the 15th of the month. Proprietors, firm members, personnel of the armed forces, domestic servants, and self-employed persons are excluded.
(2) Preliminary estimates based on return from sample of 711 selected Montana establishments.
(3) Figures previously released have been revised on returns from 913 such establishments.
(4) Includes fabricated metal products, machinery except electrical, furniture, stone and clay products.
(5) Includes apparel, chemicals, petroleum, and miscellaneous manufacturing products.
(6) Includes commercial trade schools, auto repair services and garages, miscellaneous repair services and hand trades, motion pictures, amusements and recreation, medical and health, law offices and professional services, nonprofit membership organizations and business not otherwise classified.
(7) Same as (6) above, also includes finance, insurance, real estate and mining.

COMPARISON OF BASIC LABOR MARKET TRANSACTIONS IN APRIL, 1953, AND APRIL, 1952

Employment Service Office	New Job Applicants				Jobseekers in File				Job Placements				Employer Visits		Job Openings		U. I. Claims Week 5-9	
	April 53		April 52		April 53		April 52		April 53		April 52							
	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952
Anaconda	72	19	81	14	96	14	80	8	66	19	79	8	30	103	72	105	80	48
Billings	287	59	411	117	675	179	850	222	409	189	644	224	92	473	416	458	350	232
Bozeman	134	56	115	43	106	33	117	28	365	139	306	108	126	130	285	257	39	37
Butte	162	27	207	16	552	61	471	34	108	17	272	45	231	231	133	448	371	232
Cut Bank	22	9	30	5	122	44	119	26	67	21	62	29	96	70	43	56	78	51
Dillon	74	31	55	14	91	32	70	11	110	51	139	59	60	60	19	30	19	20
Forsyth	19	6	52	12	29	14	25	4	62	17	42	12	42	29	40	33	17	13
Fort Benton	39	18	48	15	10	3	6	....	104	51	123	55	55	55	41	16	7	6
Glasgow	106	23	67	18	95	18	69	13	213	56	328	123	122	143	153	319	13	14
Glendive	68	28	93	36	59	12	13	1	121	33	192	55	72	77	89	321	38	11
Great Falls	267	78	381	101	547	166	412	79	562	165	660	244	166	291	388	433	333	197
Hamilton	29	19	29	8	94	31	341	101	195	32	187	17	175	115	75	41	50	66
Havre	93	46	102	31	117	42	110	11	328	145	217	65	93	115	251	124	19	33
Helena	261	116	525	214	347	116	360	144	319	145	553	263	139	160	266	618	160	91
Kalispell	289	69	395	173	1,189	378	1,168	232	102	32	450	149	93	81	152	536	646	201
Lewistown	106	28	101	21	79	5	63	5	107	31	136	48	109	147	68	98	48	51
Libby	15	1	38	5	149	52	197	63	28	14	46	18	22	42	37	59	102	93
Livingston	96	24	152	22	185	42	321	48	169	66	167	62	105	113	123	119	62	42
Malta	27	4	24	4	32	5	39	2	88	21	83	22	47	65	80	83	19	4
Miles City	50	15	141	43	70	11	51	9	214	65	210	87	144	106	124	157	55	21
Missoula	146	46	119	33	804	236	439	94	395	134	372	112	208	218	352	316	309	267
Polson	22	8	61	18	201	39	142	33	33	11	60	28	30	78	33	63	153	65
Shelby	42	16	102	43	35	3	24	2	199	84	215	76	62	106	70	137	32	15
Sidney	52	19	43	11	82	14	101	22	142	45	186	53	131	67	98	187	37	26
Thomp. Falls	19	4	15	3	186	53	82	15	28	15	63	24	58	70	32	75	112	45
Wolf Point	42	12	56	18	91	32	35	10	147	53	168	66	95	107	78	124	79	12
Tchr. Plcmt	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	19	8	7	2	5	23	287	208	....	....
TOTALS	2,539	781	3,443	1,038	6,043	1,635	5,705	1,217	4,700	1,659	5,967	2,054	2,608	3,275	3,805	5,421	3,228	1,893

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN SELECTED MONTANA INDUSTRIES

(Produced in co-operation with United States Bureau of Labor Statistics)
(Hours and earnings data exclude administrative and salaried personnel)

INDUSTRY	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Apr. (1) 1953	Mar. (2) 1953	Apr. 1952	Apr. (1) 1953	Mar. (2) 1953	Apr. 1952	Apr. (1) 1953	Mar. (2) 1953	Apr. 1952
All Manufacturing	$77.62	$78.07	$72.14	40.9	41.1	39.7	$1.90	$1.90	$1.82
Durable goods	78.50	79.12	71.17	41.4	41.5	38.7	1.90	1.91	1.84
Primary metals	87.69	87.27	83.29	45.3	45.2	45.2	1.93	1.93	1.84
Nondurable goods	76.26	76.42	73.97	40.3	40.5	41.3	1.89	1.89	1.79
Food and kindred products	62.59	65.33	64.15	40.3	41.7	42.1	1.55	1.57	1.52
All Mining	87.75	88.59	80.50	41.5	41.6	40.3	2.11	2.13	2.00
Metal mining	87.98	87.92	79.81	42.3	42.3	40.4	2.08	2.08	1.98
Transportation and Utilities (except railrds.)	71.93	73.09	69.05	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Transportation (except railrds.)	83.49	83.32	82.17	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Utilities and communication	66.20	68.06	63.25	39.3	40.6	40.0	1.68	1.68	1.58

(1) Preliminary estimates. (2) Figures previously released have been revised on more complete returns.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION
COMMISSION OF MONTANA
MITCHELL BUILDING
P. O. Box 1728
HELENA, MONTANA

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

President
Montana School of Mines
Butte, Montana

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